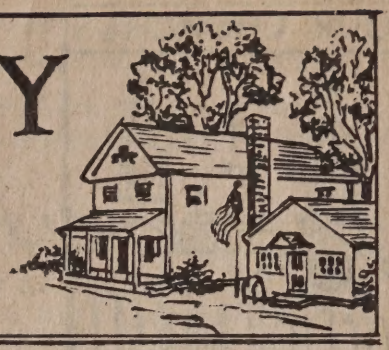
MONTEREY NEWS



December 1981

ENERGY PROJECT REPORT

This fall's Weatherization Co-op served about 20 familes and sold about $400 worth of weatherization materials. Most of the products were supplied at cost by Carr Hardware in Great Barrington, a store which has been consistently generous in its support of energy conservation efforts in Monterey. Technical assistance was provided by the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) in Pittsfield.

The Monterey Library with the help of members of the Energy Project is sponsoring a series of films to be shown in the Social Room of the United Church of Christ during the months to come. The first showing, two films starring Harold Lloyd, was on December 3 and was received with enthusiasm by those who came to see it. The next film is scheduled for Thursday, January 7. The films are free, family oriented and run about one hour. Refreshments will be sold by the Monterey Energy Project. Film titles will be announced in posters around town prior to showing.

BULLETIN BOARD LOSES ITS FOOTING

On Sunday, December 6 this year's first snowstorm, called by the Eagle "the biggest snowstorm since the Blizzard of 1978" and described by the National Weather Service in Boston as "the worst early winter storm since Dec. 1926", dumped two feet of snow on eastern Massachusetts and with a wild, snow-laden wind dumped Monterey's new Community Bulletin Board flat on its face. The sturdy oak structure now lies behind its pilings, its shaggy cedar bangs deep in snow, its poster-festooned belly now a stalactitious vault. Wayne Dunlop, one of the builders of the structure, has been notified andpromises to right and anchor the mighty giant before the next blasts of wind and anthropomorphizing hyperbole hit town.

JUDITH FREEMAN PROTESTS WORKFARE

Judith Freeman of Beartown Road, Monterey, has organized a series of meetings with welfare parents, key figures in social services in the Berkshires, and, on Saturday, Dec. 5, with Peter Webber and Representative Dennis Duffin to discuss the controversial new approach proposed by Governor King for the treatment of some welfare recipients. The program, called Workfare, will require some parents now receiving Aid for Dependent Children to go to work. Various organizations such as the League of Women's Voters and Southern Berkshire Community Action have expressed disapproval of the program.

Senator Webber and Representative Duffin are backing a bill which will give the state legislature power to oversee and to modify the Workfare program. Meanwhile, there will be a Workfare Advisory Committee meeting on Thursday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Southern Berkshire Community Action Office to which AFDC recipients are invited. Advice and information about the changes to be brought about by the new program will be available.

BENEFIT QUILTING BEE BEGINS

Leslie Scutellaro has set a date for people who want to make a square for the Energy Project Quilt to come and receive instruction. The day and time are Tuesday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. Aspiring quilters are advised to bring fabrics (three for each square, preferably washable and durable). The plan is to cut the pattern out at Leslie's and sew the square at home. Anyone who has questions or who can't make it the 12th should call Leslie at 528-9244.

(Town News continued pp. 9, 11.)

CATHOLIC CHURCHES
Masses Schedule

Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield
Saturday - 9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Sunday - 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Immaculate Conception, Mill River
Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Workshop and Regular Meetings

Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with childcare at same time in the Social Room. Choir rehearsal, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. at the parsonage. Meditation and prayer Thursdays, 7:30 a.m. in the Social Room. All are invited to join us. Prayer Group Thursdays, 7:45 p.m. at the home of Lucy Smith.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS IN MONTEREY

Christmas Sunday - December 20 : Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m. The theme: "When waiting makes a Difference".

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols - Sunday, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m. The great scriptures and carols of the Christmas season woven into the magic of candlelight. Music by the Choir and others in the community. All in the community are invited.

Community Carol Singing - Tuesday, December 22, 6:30 p.m. Meet at the Church. The Carols will be sun especially for shut-in people in town. We will end up at Gould Farm with hot chocolate to warm us up all the way to the toes.

Christmas Eve at Gould Farm - 7:30 p.m. Service at main house then a living nativity scene at the barn. All in community invited.

Morning Worship Moves to Social Room - January, February and March are the months that worship will be held in the social room. The Parish Council made this decision at its December meeting.

Annual Meeting on January 17 - The annual meeting of the Congregation will be held on the third Sunday in January, the 17th. It will begin with the Minister's report during the morning worship. Reports will be received, the budget passed and officers elected. The meeting will conclude with a pot luck dinner at noon.

Thanksgiving/Christmas Community Dinner

The mid-winter Community Dinner, a casualty of last week's snowstorms, is rescheduled for Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 PM.

Bring a dish for 10. Bring plates, cutlery and napkins.

The program will be the Albert Schweitzer Center Chorus, directed by Steve Rose.

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION MEETING

In the continuing effort to be connected to the cause of peace-making, about 50 people gathered at the Monterey Church on Nov. 24 to have supper together and to meet with Dan Evenor of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The F.O.R. is one of the oldest peace groups, based in Nyack, New York.

People were present who had just returned from the Riverside Church (N.Y.C.) conference on disarmament. There were statements read from all faiths acknowledging the outrate of the religious communities at the nuclear build-up. There were some present who painfully spoke of the threat to their usual stance of hopefulness. The group read together the New Abolitionist Covenant, and pondered the meaning of working to abolish misunderstanding, confusion and distrust, and working to render their opposites strong and powerful for the resolution of human conflict.

The meeting was sponsored by the southern unit of the Berkshire County People for Peace.

-Jean Stowell

A GIANT STEP: When People Claim a Voice

Virgil V. Brallier, minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

What if our time should eventually be recognized as an era in which humanity took a giant step forward? Surprising idea? With so many dark and forboding things around some steps toward the light may nevertheless be taking place.

What is to be made of the observation that people are claiming a voice in affairs that affect their lives with a new determination? One could say, "That's nothing new". But there is a force in this movement that could be a new chapter in the unfolding human story. This stronger voice is happening on many levels, but I will limit my observations to three areas: government, business and religion.

A paradox has run through society for many generations. We pay tribute to democracy. We say "yes" to people being active in their own affairs. Yet we also have the trained "experts": the persons experienced in governing, management in business, individuals educated and ordained for spiritual leadership. The two poles from which we look for direction are usually in some degree of tension. We expect "the people" to have a voice, yet we also demand direction from the "expert".

Many observers recognize that the tension between these two poles is mounting. Look at government. Issues of war and peace have been so complex that we have acted as if only those in charge of governing could cut through the complexities. So the fate of nations has been largely in the hands of the experts who have decided whether we would have war or peace. How shall we account for the ground-swell of people in Europe making their voices heard, demanding less war-like positions. Maybe the time is not too far distant of which former President Eisenhower spoke, "Someday the people of this country will want peace so badly the government will have to step out of the way and let them have it".

You cannot have missed the voices that are arising among people, voices without great power, but voices that have a persistence regarding the right to share in determining how their work destiny is shaped. No one with good ears can fail to hear the rising queries, protests and suggestions on the emerging shape of religious quest in our time. What is more appropriate than that persons who are also "spirits" have a voice in how their own spiritual development shall proceed?

How shall we position ourselves regarding the rising crescendo of voices claiming a share in shaping how their lives are to unfold?

Can our response be anything but celebration?

Mark this for sure, it will not bring universal celebration. The potential for tension and conflict is great. Strong voices are not always wise voices. Those asking for a part in the decision making process may not yet be experienced in how good decisions are made. Those used to being in charge will feel enormously threatened.

Nevertheless history shows us how many times bold new steps forward are often taken at the cost of pain and suffering. I long for the eyes of a clear, long perspective as I look at our time. Don't you long for it too? Yet you and I, like all on pilgrimage, must find our way through the uncertainties and the darkness of the time in which we live. We must find our way through perplexing mixtures of joy and sorrow. We search for the unfolding of tomorrow when many times it feels more like we are walking on the edge of a great precipice. None of us are exempt from these conditions that prevail when we are on pilgrimage from what is to the place that is to be.

I have come to place great confidence in these movements that seem to rise out of the very fabric of humanity. It is in this manner I am coming to hear these voices crying out for a larger share in the way life is given shape within various human societies.

Can we find in all this some formula for courage? So very many people are convinced that darkness has the edge on light, that violence hasmore power than gentleness. The discouragement level is running high these days. But should we not take courage? It is no small thing when humanity wrestles its way through dark places to a new level of being. By the way, what are you using your voice for these days?

GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met Nov. 18th for a conservation night. Florence Brown and Eleanor Kimberly led an interesting talk on values of trees by Stetson Adams, a talk on gun safety by Robert Hardisty and quizzer readings and songs. Lecturer Mary Wallace gave an interesting report on State Grange Session.

On December 2, Visiting Past Masters and Past Lecturers night filled the chairs and furnished an enjoyable night. It was a stormy night but 18 members and 14 visitors braved the storm and it was an enjoyable evening. Ethel Ketchen conducted a country store for the general fund. The hall had been winterized, and new fire extinguishers were installed by Robert Hardisty. The Annual Christmas Party for members, families and friends will be Dec. 9 including a Program at 7 and covered Dish supper at 8 and a gift exchange.

Mary Wallace

GOULD FARM NEWS

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Farm Nov. 21. Various Farm concerns were dealt with. There was a unanimous vote to have the Atlanta group invited back for another month of camping next summer. The reports of the Executive Director, Kent Smith, and of the Treasurer, Virgil Stucker, were read, discussed and accepted.

On Thanksgiving Day, the old main house looked very festive. Although about 20 people were away for the day or the weekend, including Kent and Nancy Smith, visiting relatives and friends brought the numbers present to its usual holiday total of around ninety. An excellent dinner was served by the kitchen staff, led by Beverly Dewald. When the time came for speeches and reports, Ed Dunlop presided as master of ceremonies. Luel McIntosh read the story of the Farm's first Thanksgiving in 1917, written by Agnes Gould. Joe Burkholder told of the year's harvest and of the extraordinary size of some of the vegetables. Alexander Dreier made an interesting story of the totals of milk, eggs and meat, all produced and consumed here: Milk - 68,362 lbs., or 7,948 gallons, or 31,792 qts. If all those qts. were placed in individual qt. bottles in single file on the road, the line would extend over 1½ miles. If all the bottles were then put in milk crates and the crates then stacked on top of each other, the resulting tower would be more than twice as high as the Empire State Building. Eggs - 38,311 eggs or 3193 doz. Our cardboard flats hold 30 eggs each. If all these eggs were placed in flats and stacked on top of each other, the resulting tower would be over 300 ft. tall or about 3 times the height of the Washington Monument. Meat - Including beef, pork and lamb, we produced 8,482 lbs. of meat, which figuring at ½ lb. portion per person is enough to provide a hearty meal for every man, woman and child in Morristown, New Jersey. Finally, Virgil Stucker read a financial report. There is somehow a special sense of blessing over the Farm family's Thanksgiving given it long ago by those sturdy pioneers, William and Agnes Gould.

In mid-August, Frances McIntosh (who, through Loul has known the Farm for many years), started working as a full-time volunteer. Recently she has joined the regular staff and plans to stay until Sept. when she will go back to college. Theresa Akles came a few weeks ago. After graduating from college with a degree in science, she worked for two years as a Peace Corp volunteer in the Philippines. She learned of the Farm through Spring Lake Ranch in Vermont and also through the newspaper "Hot Lines" which lists job openings.

Rose McKee

From the Executive Director's Desk...

I wish to thank a number of you who responded to the last issue of the News by sending contributions to help cover the air fare of our nineteen Atlanta visitors. I am happy to report that (cont. p. 4)

drawing by Kirsten Blount

Y*O*U*T*H***N*E*W*S

BROWNIES

For the Thanksgiving holiday the four girls made turkey pins, and they also decorated cut out turkeys with different kinds of beans. They will be starting projects for the Christmas holidays.

CUB SCOUTS

Webeloes Friddy Vorck and Eric Callahan demonstrated the eruption of a volcano for the geologist activity badge. The boys of Den 3 visited the Whip Factory in Southfield for the Bear badge. The boys were awarded their badges by Donald Blanchard, Cubmaster.

Eric Callahan and Freddy Vorck - scholar, athletic, geologist activity badges, Scott Sheridan, and Steven Funk - artist, athlete, and citizen activity badges.

NEWS FROM MT. EVERETT SCHOOL-Honor Roll

Grade 12: High Honors

Juliet Hughes
James Makuc

Honors

Rick Andrus
Cheri Briggs
Tammy Jervas

Grade 11: High Honors

Peggy O'Conner

Grade 10: High Honors

Sherri Burkholder

Honors

Laurie Briggs

Mr. and Mrs. William hosted a picnic for the members of the Mount Everett cross country team. Awards were given to Jeffrey Gauthier for most improved runner and Douglas Champigny for the "hustler" award, both from Monterey. The team ended with a 8 - 10 record.

4 H

The Rotary Club had their annual capon contest. The largest capon came from Betsy Crine, of Sheffield and weighed 14.15 lbs. Second prize went to Sean Kerwin of Gould Farm Monterey. His weighed 13.77 lbs. Other contestants were Paul and Nancy Bynack of Monterey. All of them got blue ribbons, but the winner got a blue ribbon with a rosette. All of the contestants were awarded with a banquet at Hans Restaurant.

NEWS FROM NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL AND MONTEREY KINDERGARTEN

On November 3rd, Mrs. Susan Andersen returned to her Monterey Kindergarten assignment after a maternity leave of absence. Mrs. Linda Haapanen of Monterey substituted for her during this time.

Mrs. Joan Wilcox, School Nurse, has been doing vision and hearing checks on all students at the New Marlborough Central School during the month of November.

November 15-21 was National Education Week. In observance of this, parent conferences were scheduled to discuss the performance of children in the classroom and to offer descriptions of academic programs. Additionally, an invitation was offered to parents to visit the school or classroom of their child and to participate in the lunch program. Several parents visited New Marlborough Central School during that week, spending time in the classrooms and enjoying a school lunch with their children.

In recognition of National Book Week, Nov. 16-22, the Second Annual "Partners in Reading" Program was initiated in the elementary grades. New forms and format were sent home with the children to encourage reading at home with parents and as an independent enjoyable activity. Awards will be made to the children completing the minimum required readings periodically during the school year.

The intramural sports program conducted at Mt. Everett under Mr. Wayne Seavey's supervision was extended to students in Grades 3 and 4. The roller skating program for Mt. Everett began on Nov. 13th, the program for Grades 3 & 4 began on Nov. 20th, and will continue for nine weeks. The children are bussed to the Bolairo Skating Rink in Gt. Barrington after school and the parents pay a small weekly fee to cover the cost of transportation, skates and two hours of skating

NEWS FROM THE NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL (cont'd from Page 5)

time. Twenty-five students at NMC are enjoying this fun sport.

On December 7th and 8th the annual Toy and Gift Sale, sponsored by the Monterey-New Marlborough PTA, took place at the school. On Tuesday afternoon the children of the school were allowed to do their Christmas shopping. This is always an exciting event for them.

ELEMENTARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM

New Marlborough Central -- These students were awarded certificates for the number of books they read:

Grade 2 -- Mark Phillips

Grade 4 -- Jessica Thorn, Nancy Phillips, and Meghan Bradley.

VOLUNTEERS HELP IN KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

During the fall, all kindergarten children in the Southern Berkshire Regional School District were given screening tests to determine the skill levels they had reached before beginning school. Sixteen volunteers helped kindergarten teachers administer the tests. Volunteers in Monterey were Mrs. K. Rodgers, Mrs. P. Gillette, Mrs. L. Whitbeck, and Mrs. C. Sadlowski. An analysis of the results of the tests will help the teachers plan appropriate learning activities for the school year. The test results and the planned programs were reviewed with parents at conferences arranged by the teachers.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

A challenge currently facing public education in our district (given Proposition 2½) is the need to be creative and ambitious in curriculum and program planning while being cautious in budget preparation. In other words, we must strive to do more with less. The Building Structures Program is doing just that. Welles Sellew, instructor from Monterey, has played a lead role in developing a forestry management project at Mt. Everett. The course includes knowledge of types and values of trees, specifically of managing a woodlot and proper and safe use of related equipment. Jed Lipsky participated in the program by leading a session on tree felling. A by-product of this project will be that the students will produce for sale about 10 cords of firewood per year.

SPECIAL NOTE: The transportation system for the District will be a major topic for discussion at the next school committee meeting, December 17 at the Career Education Building in Sheffield. Time, 7:30 p.m. If you are unable to attend but have ideas you wish to share, please call me (528-9651) any time before the meeting.

GOULD FARM NEWS (Cont'd from Page 4)

'special gifts' have now just covered the entire cost of transportation.

Let me use this opportunity to state again that Gould Farm is a unique place. We speak of ourselves as a community, but we do not fit any stereotype of a community. We are also a facility which provides the most responsible kind of psychiatric treatment and rehabilitation (treatment through a visiting psychiatrist). In order to communicate with families and mental health professionals, I sometimes speak of the Farm as a "residential psychiatric rehabilitation facility." That is correct, but it only speaks of one dimension of what we are. The Farm is a place where children of staff grow up and where people beyond the usual age of retirement continue their service to other human beings. The Farm is a place where young people from many places come for a summer service project and camping experience. The Farm is a place where younger staff find greater maturity in sharing their lives with others and ministering to human needs. The Farm is a place where people from all over the world and from all walks of life come to visit, observe and sometimes stay. Depending upon who we are and where we come from, the Farm is an employment opportunity, a community, a home, a temporary refuge, a place where one works to find greater health and the ability to function in the world of independence and employment. Syically the Farm is a place of great natural beauty and modest, functional buildings. Spiritually it is an idea and an ideal toward we--falteringly--move.

At this holiday season let me express to our many friends greetings from all of us and gratitude for your continuing interest and support.

Kent D. Smith

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NOTES FROM THE MONTEREY POST OFFICE

Wally and Peter wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

The Town has been granted approval by the Bureau of Revenue to issue Notices of Estimated Tax. The Town expects the mailing will be late in December and payable in 1981 or within 30 days of issuance.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

A Monterey Conservation Commission ruling has been appealed to the state for review. Albert Moore, owner of a lot on Elephant Rock Rd., has asked the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (D.E.Q.E.) to issue a Superseding Order of Conditions, claiming that the conditions imposed by the town's Commission are unreasonable.

At issue are two section of the town's Order, dated October 20. Moore, an architect, has designed a house which would be sited on the slope on the south side of Elephant Rock Rd within 60 feet of the Lake Garfield shoreline, measured horizontally. In its Order of Conditions, the Conservation Commission requested that "The house and all accessory structures shall be set back a minimum of 100 feet, measured on the horizontal, from the shoreline of Lake Garfield."

The Commission's order went on to explain that the site which Moore proposed "is on an extreme slope which considerably enhances the possibilities of pollution and erosion from construction and habitation." It recommended that construction be confined to a more level portion of Moore's property farther from the lake.

In his letter of appeal to the D.E.Q.E., and again at an on-site inspection conducted by a State official and attended by town Commission members, Moore disputed the environmental preferability of siting the house on the level area. He argued that his plan to build on the slope, which he lists at 40%, minimizes the amount of excavation necessary to build the foundation, as the house would sit above the ground on concrete peers. Building further up the slope, he said, would require a more extensive foundation and therefore more earth removal, increasing the risk of erosion.

In response to the Commission's fears that run-off water from the roof would threaten the steep slope and the lake below, Moore asserted that his design was for a "vertically oriented house" of three stories with small floor areas and a small roof, creating a minimum of watershed. At the on-site inspection, held November 20, he voiced his willingness to comply with any requirements imposed by the D.E.Q.E. for encouraging ground absorption of roof run-off.

Upon receipt of detailed architectural plans from Mr. Moore, the state D.E.Q.E. will draft and issue a Superseding Order of Conditions, designed to eliminate any negative impact on Lake Garfield which might result from construction or habitation of the house.

The Conservation Commission, meanwhile has drafted a letter to the D.E.Q.E., further explaining its objections to the site he has chosen, and asking that the state agency uphold the town's request that Moore build on the flat site above the road.

– Steve Carmichael

BOARD OF APPEALS

The Monterey Board of Appeals has denied a request, filed by Selwyn James, for permission to rebuild a house on Garfield Point. James wished to build on the foundation of a house destroyed by fire in late 1979. James bought the property after the fire.

The board denied his request because the site, on Lake Garfield, could not suit an on-site septic system with a leaching field. James's proposal to install a "tight-tank", which would eliminate the need for a leaching field, was rejected because the town's Zoning By-laws prohibit the use of such systems.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

At a special town meeting November 16, the Town of Monterey voted to spend $8,000 to buy two used trucks with snow plows from Ray Tryon. Tryon having discontinued plowing for the town, the trucks were offered to the highway department.

The recent tragic accident has focused attention on the lake and questions have been asked as to the origin of its name and of other fatal accidents.

When Housatonic Township #1 was originally planned there were two lakes within its boundaries, six mile pond and a larger one called twelve mile pond. Brewer, one of the earliest settlers established a mill at the outlet of the larger pond and the new colonists then referred to that body of water as Brewer's Pond.

While celebrating at a community picnic on July 4, 1881, word was received of the death of the President. As Garfield, when a student at Williams College had often visited relatives in Monterey, it was decided to rename the lake in his honor and so it has remained.

There is no written record of accidents on the lake in its early years. However, several of our villagers remember other sad times this century. Early in the 1900's a young lady from New Marlborough, Miss Langhaar, drowned while swimming with a group of friends off Tryon's Landing. The brother of Julius and Lester Miner, the owners of the Monterey Store for many years, drowned a few years later at the same spot. Another gentlemen who lived on the north shore of the lake died of a heart attack while fishing about sixty years ago.

Tryons Landing was a spot where the grandfather of Wallace Tryon kept his boat. He was an avid fisherman. It was situated on the shore where Indian Cave is now located. Scotts Landing, now the Amidon cottage was a very popular boat rental station and Hechts Cove, one of the best fishing spots.

Sally Fijux

THE LADIES AID SOCIETY

The Ladies Aid met Thursday afternoon, Dec. 3, at the parsonage (Marie Brallier, hostess) for our annual Christmas meeting. Our new president, Jean Stowell, read a poem written by a monk in the sixteenth century. It struck this listener as quite appropriate for today, mystic, but a fine slice of positive thinking. Mary Ann Carter accompanied all the carols and gave us two fine piano solos, one by Brahms, the other, a group of three short and lively selections from Chopin. Marcia Stucklen announced that she would sing for us some of the carols she thought we would be least likely to sing ourselves. They were "The Cherry Tree Carol", "The Coventry Carol" and "Lo How a Rose E're Blooming", which she sang in German. (The English translation is in the Pilgrim Hymnal). The Coventry Carol is an English lullaby to the Christ child; "The Cherry Tree Carol" is said to have spread to many countries, each of which has substituted its own native fruit. It is not Biblical but is derived from pseudo Matthew's gospel, chapter 20. (The unborn Jesus, speaks from his mother's womb!)

Mary Ward announced that the next day she would be driving to Pittsfield with a load of warm and heavy clothing for the Christian center to distribute to the needy. Thanks to all our townspeople who have contributed them.

The next meeting will be a work meeting and will be held at the apartment of Mrs. Kelly Janes, across the street from the bulletin board.

Margery Janes

BEGINNINGS OF LADIES AID

(Marjery Janes recently received all the minutes of the Ladies Aid Society in Monterey since its beginning and decided to summarize its history for us)

As its name suggests, Ladies' Aid goes clear back to the times when women were called ladies. Our group adopted its constitution June 13, 1855. It was then called the Monterey Sewing Society and its purpose was "social and intellectual improvement and the raising of funds to be appropriated as the Society shall direct". (There is nothing more about sewing in the constitution, and, until

Beginnings of Ladies Aid (Cont'd from Page 8)

we began our annual sales or "fairs", not even in the minutes). Any "person" who had the same objectives could be a member upon paying the dues -- 10 cents a year for "Ladies", 25 cents for "Gentlemen". The Ladies apparently repented of this discrimination and, thirty years later, amended the constitution: "Any person" - 10 cents. However "None but Ladies shall be entitled to vote at the meetings of the Society."

Were there really Gentlemen who would join a sewing circle? Yes--the minister. Children too might be present. Nina Tryon recalls that, as a little girl, she used to sit on a footstool and thread needles for the Ladies. She also recalls that for a while the Ladies brought their own lunches and made a day of it. For a while, the June business meeting was a lovely garden party. Then the gnats became too troublesome and the meeting was changed to October.

The first record of the Ladies appropriating money was a vote to give the Meeting House Society the $10 it had borrowed from them in order to pay someone for preaching. Later appropriations show insurance, repairs to organ, materials for carpets and cushions.

For a while, the Ladies met to clean the church. Later, they hired someone to have this done.

Dime Sociables and Ice-Cream Sociables were held and were attended by about 50 people. For a while, one was held every week.

On June 20th, 1899 we voted to change our name to The Ladies Aid Society. Though the minutes do not record it, this probably marked our affiliation with scores of other Ladies Aid Societies, in a national movement. Hence forth we would not work solely to help the Congregational Church at Monterey, but would be making layettes and hospital supplies for the mission field. None of us are old enough to remember the birth of this larger Ladies Aid, but I was in on its death.

As a delegate I accompanied our first directress, Grace Miner, to Pittsfield, for the sole purpose of dissolving the organization and tying up some loose ends constitutionally.

Mrs. Miner was visibly saddened. Her mother had been active in it; it had been going so many years -- doing such tons of good works. The present president, an attractive youngish woman, explained the reason for the dissolution. Nobody wanted to succeed her. And she, presumably with a job and a home, could not continue it.

But we were to continue the local units, choosing our own projects. We could work through Church World Service, which would be given, if we voted approval, any funds left in the central treasury.

Marjery Janes

(Town News, continued)

AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION PROPOSED

Alexander Dreier of Monterey is forming an Association of producers and consumers of agricultural commodities which will facilitate connections between the two groups. At the first meeting the following ideas were discussed: A community root cellar to extend the supply of local root crops beyond the garden season, a newsletter listing all sources of farm products in the Southern Berkshires, communication with co-ops in the area, and the evolution of a system by which labor by individuals or groups might be exchanged for goods. The next meeting is planned for January 6. Time and Place to be announced. For more information, call 528-4355.

New Marlboro Rd., Monterey

WE HAVE A LIMITED SUPPLY OF 1 lb. JARS of OUR UNHEATED, UNFILTERED BERKSHIRE WILD-FLOWER HONEY AND A FAIRLY GOOD SUPPLY OF GOAT'S MILK CHEESE. BOTH MAKE WONDERFUL HOLIDAY GIFTS. CALL TO PLACE YOUR ORDER

528 2138

ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS MAIN COURSE EARLY

FRESH TURKEY SMOKED HAM PRIME RIB ROAST

FRESH BAKED PIES BY MICHELE

FILM--FILM DEVELOPING CHRISTMAS CANDY--GIFTWRAP--BOWS

EXCLUSIVE AREA DISTRIBUTORS OF BILL CROFUT RECORD ALBUMS

MONTEREY

GENERAL STORE

OPEN DAILY TIL 6
WEDNESDAY & SUNDAY TIL 1

SERVING MONTEREY FOR
OVER 200 YEARS

LOCAL LORE

HISTORIC NOTES - Indians in Monterey

(David P. McAllester is Professor of Anthropology and Music at Wesleyan University and has a home on Hupi Road in Monterey.)

Committee: "Is the land between Hopp Swamp (east of South Lee) and Twelve Mile Pond (Lake Garfield) yours?" Indians: "That land belongs to Nonnekokaunut and Rohkaunupeet..." Committee: "Captain Conkepot, have you got no land that way to the eastward of what you have sold to the committee?" Capt. Conkepot: "Yes, all of that land...south of the road to Westfield as far as Farmington River and to the Connecticut line is my land."

Thus in 1736 a committee of the legislature of Massachusetts Bay Colony recorded the claim to lands, including Monterey, by Indians of the Uesetonock tribe and their sachem, Cap't. John Conkepot, or Konkapot, also known as Pophnehonmukwok. The Uesetonock were an Algonquin-speaking people who took their name from the river on which they lived. It has been variously spelled, Ausotonog, Housetonic, Hoowestonuc, Westenuc, Westenhook (Dutch version), from Wussi-adene-uk (beyond-mountain-place).

There is no evidence for an Indian village in Monterey itself: the various finds of arrowheads and other Indian artifacts are probably traces of temporary hunting camps. The Indians seem to have come over the mountains from the Hudson valley to the Housatonic and to have established small farming villages from Sheffield to Stockbridge. They depended for food on hunting and the "Three Life-giving Sisters," corn, beans, and squash, domesticated by the Indians long before Columbus' discovery of America.

The earliest historical mention of Indians here concerns not the Uesetonock but a hapless party of 200 Nipmucks from central Massachusetts fleeing westward for their lives in 1676 after being on the losing side in King Phillip's War. The local militia from Westfield gave chase. Fugitives and pursuers passed along the Uesetonock hunting trail through Monterey.

Apparently the Nipmucks did not know they were in immediate danger and they were surprised in a dawn attack at the ford on the Housatonic near where the Searles Junior High School in Great Barrington now stands. 25 Nipmucks were killed and 20 captured. The fate of the prisoners was doubtless slavery for the women and children and execution in Boston for any leaders among the men. The Pilgrim Fathers did a brisk business in captured Indians, realizing up to £20 apiece. They were sold in the West Indies and even as far overseas as North Africa. So we can imagine the very different expectations of captives and captors as they trudged back along the Uesetonock trail.

(Local Lore cont. p 12)

Town News, continued.

HOW WINDY WAS IT?

The Monterey Energy Project's wind monitoring station, located on Louis Scheffy's property on Wellman Road, has been recording wind velocity each hour since 3:00 pm Friday October 22, when it was installed by Energy Project members and the Massachusetts Electric Company.

An anomometer situated atop a 65 foot mast, reads the speed of the wind and stores the information in the "memory banks" of a small data recorder located at the base of the tower. Every two weeks, staff members of the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) "dump" the stored wind data and enter the results in their wind monitoring log.

The Energy Projects goal is to inventory wind sites in Monterey where average yearly wind speed measures above 10 miles per hour. This is the lowest wind speed deemed usable for the cost effective installation of wind machines to produce electricity.

The following information was obtained during a 14 day period from November 14 - November 28, 1981.

14 day average wind speed - 7.792mph
Highest daily average wind speed - Nov. 19 - 16.66mph
Highest wind speed per hour - Nov. 19, 3:00 a.m. - 23.3mph
Lowest daily average wind speed - Nov. 17 - 1.87mph

For more information contact Alan Silverstein at the Center for Ecological Technology (445-4556) or at home (528-9200).

EYESHINE

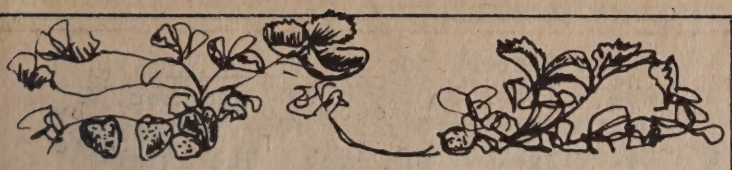
Human beings come into the world equipped for life in the sun. That we can be up and about after sunset, however, is thanks to the modern equipment we've fashioned for ourselves, an example of which is the automobile headlight, high and low beam. With this piercing ray we can go hurtling through the night as though we were natives of that world. We are aware of other creatures moving about in the darkness and we must be careful not to let our paths intersect. Many times, the first warning we get of the presence of a nocturnal animal in the road is the eerie glow of eyeshine.

On our highways eyeshine functions much like reflecting tape or clothing on cyclists and joggers, but its primary significance is the very thing which separates the daytime creatures from their nocturnal cousins and which sends all diurnal animals except us to bed with the sun. The eye of a cat differs from that of a person in that it is equipped with a tapetum lucidum, a "reflecting carpet", or mirror, which looks and operates like a piece of science fiction gadgetry. Light enters the eye through the pupil and passes through the lens to the retina at the back of the eye. In humans, a certain percentage of light is absorbed by the rod and cone cells in the retina and an image is presented to the brain by means of the optic nerve. In cats, there is another important phase. That light which is not absorbed by the retina actually passes through the retina to another layer of cells beyond. This is the tapetum, which consists of flattened cells filled with shiny guanine crystals. It reflects light back through the retina for a second chance to be perceived. Once again, some of this light will be missed, or not absorbed, and will shine out through the eye where we may see it as eyeshine.

The tapetum has evolved in many branches of the animal kingdom. Nocturnal insects with their compound eyes have a reflecting area at the back of each microscopic eye. Owls and whip-poor-wills have tapeta in the choroid layers of their eyes. Sharks and other fish of the ocean's dark abyss have mirrors in their eyes, and even the blue-eyed scallop will beam back light directed into any of its tiny eyes. In all of these creatures, from nocturnal butterflies to white-tailed deer, the tapetum lucidum maximizes whatever small amount of light may be seen at night. In absolute darkness, these animals are as blind as a human without a headlight, but if there is any light at all, cats with their special eyes can see five times better than we can. That is, a certain light will cause an image on a cat's eye 5.2 times brighter than it would on a human retina. It is painful to imagine the effect of a powerful headlight beam upon the eye of a fox or toad or raccoon, about its business by starlight. Its only defense is to narrow its pupils or to look away.

Some of the deepwater fish have evolved a screening mechanism for times of travel in surface waters where light is strong. Hundreds of pigment-filled cells called melanosomes repond to light and spread over the tapetum, covering it quickly and shielding the sensitive rods of the retina. We humans, not wishing to wait for slow-to-evolve solutions, have outfitted ourselves with light-responsive eye-glasses and "night-driving" mirrors in our cars. Thus equipped, and with our strong lights, we enter the foreign world of foxfire, glow worms, and moonlight.

Bonner McAllester



IS DECEMBER A TIME TO BE TALKING ABOUT STRAWBERRIES?

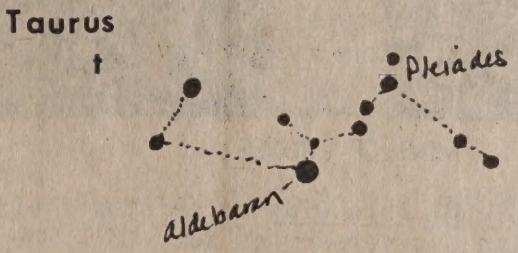
It is snowing today, the first real snowfall of the season, and the cold, wintery weather is a pressing reminder that I have not yet mulched my strawberry plants. I am about 10 days late according to my personal schedule; I usually aim for Thanksgiving. It is always a temptation to try and get the job done much earlier in the fall, but it has been shown that mulching berries before they are totally dormant will significantly reduce your yield. Mulching after 15-20 frosts has achieved the best results.

Why mulch them at all? Preventing winter injury isn't the only reason. We put 2-3 inches of mulch on top of the plants now, and pull half of it off in the spring and put it between the rows, and the berry plants grow up through the remaining mulch. This keeps the fruit off of the ground and clean. The mulch also helps conserve moisture, something very important to the shallow rooted strawberry plant, and when kept on the plants as long as possible in the spring, it delays early blossoming and the subsequent danger of frost damage. The mulch does aid in the prevention of early weed seed germination, but I feel that the amount of mulch you would have to apply to smother most all the weeds would be detrimental to the berry plants themselves.

What is the best material to use? Any weed seed free material that stays loose and doesn't mat down is suitable. Clean wheat or rye straw is considered to be the best. This year we can't find any wheat straw locally and the rye straw we've looked at has been full of weed seeds so we are going to give oat straw a try. Its drawback is that it tends to absorb more moisture than the other straws and mats down more. Pine needles work well as do woodchips provided they aren't applied too heavily. Sawdust is okay too, but some people report that the sawdust tends to stick to the berries after a rain. Leaves don't work well as they tend to stick together forming a dense mat that smothers and rots the plants.

So if you have an unmulched strawberry patch, it's not too late to cover it up. If you don't have any strawberry plants, perhaps you will consider putting some in next spring. As you gaze through those seed catalogs, nursing a winter cold, munching on an orange, just remember that a cup of Monterey strawberries has as much vitamin C as that Florida orange.

Susan Sellew
Rawson Brook Farm



THE SKY IN DECEMBER

Did you have a chance to get to know Orion last month? If you did, and if you watched carefully, you might have noticed that the Great Hunter seemed to move a little higher in the sky, a little further to the south as the weeks passed. The reason is this: as the seasons progress, the stars rise about four minutes earlier each night. If you multiply that figure by 365¼ days, you get 1,460 minutes, roughly as many minutes as there are in a 24 hour day. Orion does not move in relation to us, it is our earth that spins and moves, bringing Orion back into the same position again next year this time.

Taurus the Bull, a wedge shaped formation with another red giant, Aldebaran, (remember Betelgeuse in Orion?) is still on the run ahead of Orion, but further south by mid December. The wedge forms the Bull's horns. The only other visible part is Taurus' shoulder formed by the Pleiades, due south on Christmas night at about 10 p.m. The Pleiades are small, a tightly clustered group of bright young star-lings, brilliantly blue, enveloped in a haze of gas like baby lambs in a placenta. A pair of binoculars will reveal their beauty. A pair of horns, a shoulder - that's Taurus - the rest of this mighty creature has to be filled out by your imagination.

Loul McIntosh

photograph by Eleanor Kimberly

NEWS OF PEOPLE

Raymond and Abbie Olds celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 23. They were honored that day by an open house reception given by the Ladies Aid.

Raymond and Abbie were married on Nov. 23, 1921, in Mansfield, Conn. where both were residents. They came to Monterey in 1943 to work at Gould Farm. When they left the farm they built a house -- mostly with Raymond's own labor - on Blue Hill Road, and still live there.

The Oldses have always been zealous for the welfare of Monterey and are members and regular attendants of the United Church of Christ.

The Oldses were also guests of honor at a family gathering on Nov. 28. Family members and life-long friends from six states attended that party.

Monterey extends congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple.

Colleen M. Hastedt, daugher or Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Hastedt of Pixley Road, married David G. Galisa on Nov. 28. Mr. Galisa is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Galisa of East Main St. Stockbridge.

The evening ceremony took place at St. Joseph's Church and was performed by the Rev. Richard Drabnik.

Congratulations to Peggy Theriot for winning an area rug in the raffle at the Rudolf Steiner School handcraft fair. Same to Steve Small for winning perennials and trees from Anthony Nordoff and Forbes Ross, landscapers.

The funeral for Arthur J. Funk, Dr. was held on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 6 at the Hickey-Birches Funeral Home by Dr. Virgil V. Brallier. The interment was in Corashire Cemetery. Children of Mr. Funk living in Monterey are Arthur Funk on Main Road and Norma Champigney on River Road.

The Stanley Zilka funeral was held on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at Our Lady of the Valley with the rites being conducted by the Rev. Fred Heberle.

FUELWOOD PROGRAM

Funds are available for thinning your woodlot and access roads under the Fuelwood Program of the Berkshire County ASCS office. The program not only supplies fuelwood to conserve energy, but increases the growth and production of your timberstand. Cost-sharing is authorized for technical assistance for 100% of the actual cost not to exceed $30 per acre for:

1. Preparation of a forest management plan;
2. Marking and tallying of trees to be removed;
3. Supervision of removal.

Owners of 10 or more acres of eligible woodland should call 443-9227 for further information. This is the final year for this program.

JOB COUNSELING AT WOMEN'S SERVICES CENTER

Job counseling for women who are looking for work is available through the Hiring Hall of Women's Services Center. The January Hiring Hall begins on Jan. 11 and runs for 10 weekly sessions, meeting daily from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Center on 33 Pearl St. in Pittsfield. The program is aimed at the needs of those moving from unpaid homemaking to the paid work force as well as toward any woman changing careers. For information, call 499-2425.

USEFUL TOLL FREE NUMBERS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Product Safety Commission Information on Toys: 1-800-638-8326

Parental Stress Line: 1-800-632-8188
(A statewide counseling service for parents and others experiencing stress in their relationship with children.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Article on Monterey in Yankee Magazine, October, inspired a douple of letters from afar. The first is from a retired banker turned clock designer who wrote to inquire about living and teaching in Monterey. He is confused about the authorship of the Yankee piece, but he is certain of his feelings for our town. Here is an excerpt from his letter:

Dear Ms. Pearson,

The article having to do with energy savings at Monterey and other towns read with a great amount of interest.

The October issue of "Yankee" in which the article was printed has lain here before me on my desk for I have earnestly wanted to write at least a few lines of commendation to you and Edie Clark for such an unusual story about such an unusual town!

How true it is that large beneficial things can emanate from very small beginnings or sources such as and much alike the numerous seeds initiated by an all-knowing Creator for the well-being of all individuals. I should state, all living beings.

And so -- in consequence MONTEREY stands out!!

Sincerely, R.A. Holmblad

and another ...

Dear Ms. Pearson,

I have read and re-read the article, "The Night the Lights Went Out in Monterey" in the Oct.'81 issue of Yankee. As little children, we lived in a town about the same size. It is Richville, St. Lawrence Co., N.Y. In the early 1800's my great great grandfather, Horatio Walker and his bride, the former Mary Fargo came from your area by ox cart. I have not been able to establish parentage of Mary, but Horatio was son of Issac[6] and Elizabeth[6] Townsend Walker. Issac's parents were Isaac[5] and Jerucha Garfield Walker. This Isaac[5] was in the Revolution. Is there a DAR Chapter in your area? Perhaps, they could tell me where Isaac[5] is buried, and when Jerusha[6] died and where. I wonder if any descendants live there yet.

I hope Nina Ruth Tryon is still reading her newspaper in her lovely old home., that business in Millie Walsh's general store is booming and that you are still hosting get-togethers for friends and family.

Happy holiday season.

Sincerely, Mary Ruth Beaman
Ogdensburg, N.Y.

Dear Everyone:

Altho I now live thousands of miles away I still greatly enjoy your fine publication. Best wishes to all of you. I well know all the work the paper involves for I once did the same thing in the East.

Enclosed find check which I believe is due this month.

Thoroughly enjoyed write-up of Monterey in Yankee too.

Cordially, Ottalie K. Williams
Los Gatos, California

Dear Ellen,

This is a fan card. The new Monterey News is a nonpareil of beauty, wit, and moral fiber.

Love, Susan McAllester

SPECIAL REQUEST from Ellen:

Please call in your news, personal, political, or whatever. Our readers tell us they want more news of people and more details on the workings of town departments. I have discovered that, if I call every board and commission in town every month, I have no time left to write up the stories, much less feed my children and chickens. Send me news of visits and achievements, Hearings and Variances, problems and decisions. I can also use black and white line drawings, about 3½ inches by 4 inches.

Thanks to David McAllester and Marjery Janes for taking time to write up histories of subjects well-known to each of them. And more thanks to Edith Wilson whose drawings have graced the Monterey News through all 10 years of its history. We're dusting some of the old ones off and running them by again.

DEADLINE FOR ADS AND ARTICLES:

The 8th day of each month

Mail to: Box 264, Monterey MA 01245

C A L E N D A R

Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield (free)

Dec. 15 - Theater: "She Loves Me" by Berkshire Public Theater

Dec. 29 - Music: Bill Crofut (traditional and contemporary folk songs)

Jan. 5 - Film: "Of Mice and Men" (1940) Burgess Meredith, Lon Chaney, Jr. Intro. lecture - Merritt Abrash, RPI

Jan. 12 - Music/Dance : DeLugan Dance Studio & The Carlins Orchestra, "Dance Party II".

Simon's Rock College, Gt. Barrington (8:00 Fridays, 7:00 Sundays) ($1.00 - adults, $.50 - children)

Jan. 10 - Film: "Aguirre, The Wrath of God" and "The Forbin Project"

Jan. 15 & 17 - Film: "Wild Strawberries" and "Woodstock"

AD RATES

One Page	$30.00
1/2 Page	15.00
1/4 Page	8.00
1/8 Page	4.00
1/16 Page	2.00

MAD SCOT
Small Engine Repair

Chain Saws
Snowblowers

Chain Sharpening
Maintenance
Repair

*** Don Clawson ***

528-4835
evgs and wkends

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE HAVE YOUR CHIMNEY CLEANED
Save on fuel costs, repairs and installations.
Larry Bates 528-2512 9AM-1PM, after 5PM.

STAFF

Editor : Ellen Pearson
Managing Editor: Virgil Brallier
Art Editor : Edith Wilson
Youth Editor : Katy Bradley

Circulation Managers: Tony and Debbie Reed
Reporters: Steve Carmichael
Typist : Laura Dubester

Acknowledgements: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Vickerman
Ottalie K. Williams

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MONTEREY, MASSACHUSETTS
01245

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Monterey, MA
Permit #2

Return Postage
Guaranteed

Michelle Miller
Peter Murkett
PO Box 324
Monterey, MA 01245